

3-11-2005

# The Hilltop 3-11-2005

Hilltop Staff

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# THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

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FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2005

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

## FRIDAY NOTEBOOK

### CAMPUS SPECIAL OLYMPIANS COMPETE



THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS WILL BE HOLDING AN EVENT ON HOWARD'S CAMPUS THIS WEEKEND. FIND OUT HOW TO GET INVOLVED.

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### NATION & WORLD

#### COULD YOU SPOT A PEDOPHILE?

FIND OUT WHAT THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE EVERYDAY PEDOPHILE ARE.

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### LIFE & STYLE

#### FIGHT INSECURITY

EVER WONDER HOW TO KEEP YOUR BELONGINGS, IDENTITY AND COMPUTER SECURE WHILE TRAVELING? SEE HOW INSIDE.

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### SPORTS

#### MARCH MADNESS

SEE WHICH TEAMS MAY BE ON THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN AS THE NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK WRAPS UP.

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### HU CALENDAR

MARCH 12  
SECOND DEFERRED  
TUITION PAYMENT DUE

FAFSA APPLICATION DUE

MARCH 12-20  
SPRING BREAK

MARCH 24  
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### WEATHER

Today---Rain, Snow, Showers  
High:52  
Low:34

Saturday---AM Snow Showers  
High:43  
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## Mercury Spill in Power Plant

BY LAUREN STEPHENS

Hilltop Staff Writer

Sixth Street was temporarily closed yesterday while emergency crews responded to a mercury spill at the Howard University Power Plant.

According to Alan Etter, spokesman for D.C. Fire and EMS, an unspecified amount of mercury spilled in the plant, which supplies power to the whole university.

"We have a special operations division that responded at the request of Howard University to examine the situation in the power plant," Etter said. "Apparently there was a spill of a limited amount of mercury in the power plant, I'm not quite sure where in the power plant, but I'm told the mercury came possibly from a [broken] boiler gauge. Some of the old gauges use mercury to make the meters work."

The spill was reported to the fire department at 11 a.m. Thursday morning after a power plant employee tried to clean up the spill with paper towels.

"The individual who did the cleaning has tested very high for mercury exposure. He has been decontaminated by HAZMAT; he is ok," he said.

According to Etter, students on campus are in no danger because mercury is only hazardous if it gets in the bloodstream.

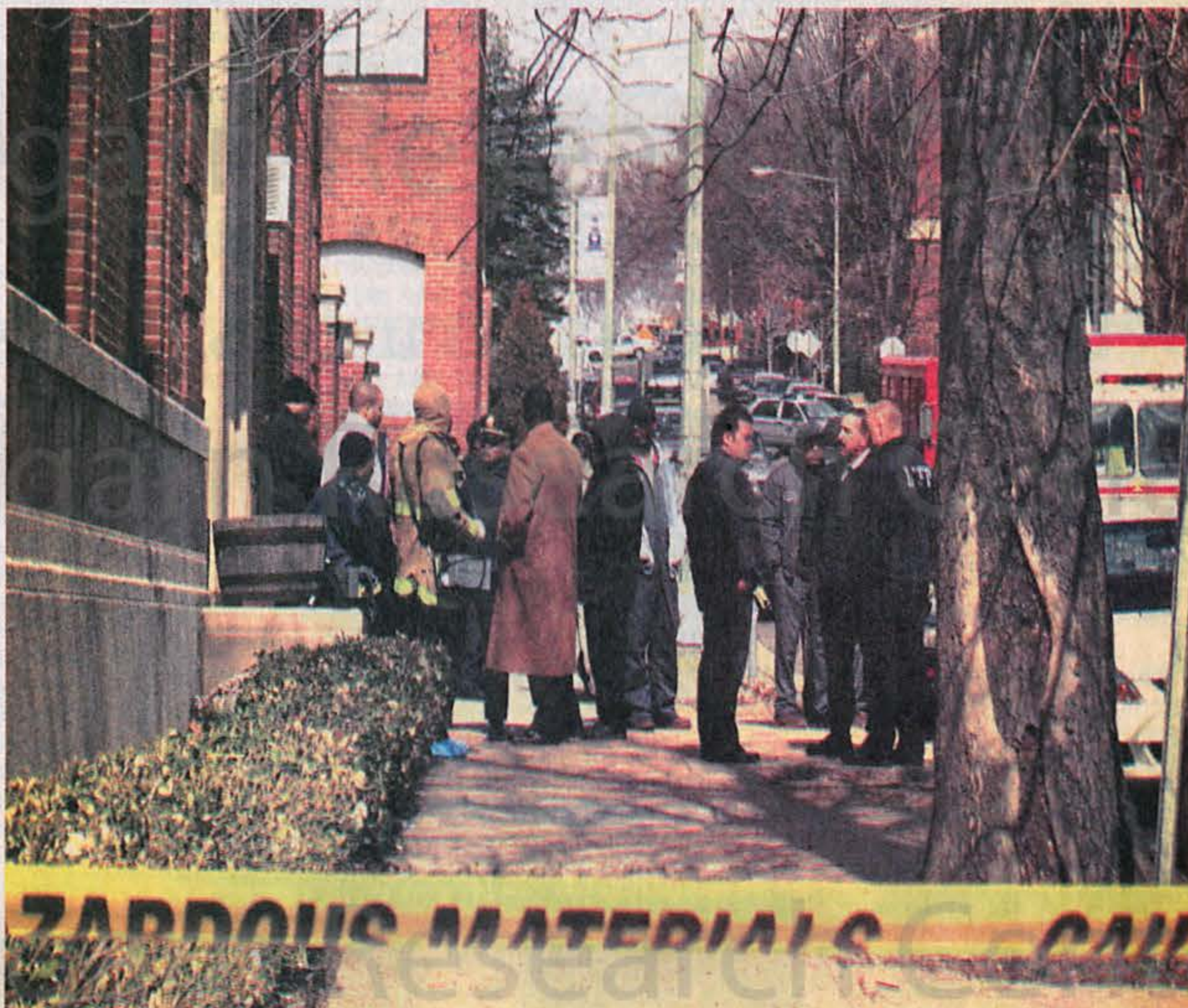
"Mercury can only hurt you if its vaporized and you breathe in the vapors. Mercury, we do know, can cause a variety of health effects through long-term exposure. If it gets into your blood stream either by breathing in the vapors or if you ingest it or if you are handling it and you have a cut on your hand. There are a number of ways it can get into your system," Etter said.

The spill at the power plant comes just a few days after more mercury was found at Cardozo High School in Northwest on Tuesday evening.

In addition to the fire department, representatives from the Department of Health, the Hazardous Material unit (HAZMAT) and Campus Police officers were present.

Students trying to walk down Sixth Street were directed to go around the blockade by campus police.

Professor Carole Beane was on her way to teach



Calvin Seaton-Staff Photographer

After a person was exposed to mercury in the Howard University Power Plant the fire department, the HAZMAT unit and campus police officers blockaded Sixth Street.

a Spanish class in the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center, next door to the power plant, when a campus police officer stopped her.

"The police woman said I couldn't go through because there was a biohazard," she said.

Beane was not the only one inconvenienced by the closing of the street. Students visiting from other schools to participate in the Foreign Service Exam preparation class were also detoured.

## Losing Record Costs Bison Men's Basketball Coach His Job

BY JONATHAN DAVIS

Contributing Writer

After a disappointing 5-23 season, which included only 2 wins in 18 contests against the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC), it was clear that something needed to change for the Bison men's basketball team. Unfortunately no one expected what happened yesterday.

Howard yesterday fired men's basketball coach Frankie Allen after posting a 52-83 in five seasons at the school.

The Bison, which suffered an 80-56 defeat to the Florida A&M Rattlers in the play-in round of the MEAC Tournament Monday evening, concluded the season with 17 consecutive loss.

The Bison went the last eight weeks and two days without a victory. Their last win occurred at Burr Gymnasium on Jan. 8 when sophomore guard Will Gant's last second shot defeated the Morgan Bears 79-77.

"This was a very difficult decision for the university," Howard University Athletic Director Sondra Norrell-Thomas told *The Washington Post*. "Coach Allen has done some wonderful things during his tenure at Howard. However, our men's basketball program has not been at the level we expected, and a change in leadership at this time best positions us for success. We feel strongly that our men's basketball program needs to go in a different direction, and it was



www.bisonmanlia.com

obvious to me that the change had to be made now."

The decision to relieve Coach Allen of his duties was even more of a shock to the players like sophomore forward

See ALLEN, Campus A3

## Jackson Arrives in Court in Pajamas

BY KEVIN HARRIS

Nation & World Editor

Michael Jackson arrived to court late and in his pajamas Thursday after Santa Barbara Superior Court Judge Rodney S. Melville threatened to have him arrested.

Jackson was supposed to be in court at 11:30 a.m. eastern time but failed to make the scheduled court appearance because of a "severe back" problem, his attorney Thomas Mesereau said. Melville refused to accept Mesereau's explanation and promptly threatened to revoke Jackson's \$3 million bail and put the singer in jail if he did not show up to court in one hour.

Jackson missed the judge's

one hour deadline by three minutes but was not jailed. He arrived to court escorted by his father and wearing blue pajama pants, sandals and a white shirt with a suit jacket over it. A spokesman for the Santa Ynez Valley Cottage Hospital told reporters Jackson spent an hour there Thursday morning. This is the second time Jackson's trial has been delayed following a hospital stay. Last month, jury selection was delayed a week following a hospital stay by Jackson because of the flu.

Though the judge asked jurors not to make a judgment on Jackson's guilt or innocence based on his appearance, some

See JACKSON, Campus A3

## Lady Bison Cruise Past UMES to MEAC Semifinals

BY COURTNEY EILAND

Asst. Sports Editor

Yesterday afternoon, the Lady Bison defeated the University of Maryland Eastern Shore Lady Hawks in the MEAC Tournament quarterfinals in a thrilling 54-42 game at the Richmond Coliseum in Richmond, Va.

Howard made their last field goal with 12:13 left in the second half, but still had a significant 44-27 lead over the Lady Hawks at that point. The remainder of the Lady Bison points came from behind the free throw line where they connected eight out of their last 10 free throws to help clinch the win.

Senior center Andrea Jones scored just seven points, but connected for five points behind the free throw line. Senior guard Simone Agee finished with eight points but was a perfect 4-4 behind the stripe.

Senior guard Daisha Hicks led the Lady Bison with 12 points, six rebounds, and four steals.

The fourth-seeded Lady Bison now advance to the semifinals against top-seeded Coppin State University, which

will take place this afternoon at 12 p.m.

In the regular season, the two teams split one game a piece with each winning on their home floor. In their first meeting, the Lady Bison pulled off a late finish winning by only one point in a close 74-73 game at the Burr Gymnasium.

The game-winning shot was made by junior forward Shari Johnson who laid the ball in just as the final buzzer sounded.

In their second meeting, Coppin State came away with the win defeating the Lady Bison 74-65. Senior guard Courtnei Strickland, who scored 12 of her 18 points in the second half, led Coppin State in the win.

In this game, however, Lady Bison guard, Daisha Hicks finished with 18 points and surpassed the 1,000-point mark in her tenure at Howard.

The Lady Bison will play the Lady Eagles today at 12:00 p.m. looking to advance to the finals where they will play either Florida A&M or Norfolk State. The MEAC finals are scheduled to take place this Saturday at 4:00 p.m.



Carroll Smith/All Pro Photo

Senior guard Daisha Hicks led the Lady Bison to a quarterfinal win over Coppin State yesterday afternoon. Hicks scored 12 points, along with six rebounds and



# Howard to Host Special Olympics in Burr Gym

BY KIRSTIN REID  
Asst. Copy Chief

Saturday morning Howard University will be holding the 2005 Special Olympics. Only one portion of the events, the basketball game, will take place in the main gym of Burr gymnasium. Scheduled to start at 9 a.m., the basketball game will last until 2 p.m.

Deborah K. Johnson, a tenured professor in the Department of Human Health

and Leisure studies at Howard University, is the event director. Johnson has been working with the Special Olympics for almost 30 years.

"I've worked with the Special Olympics since 1977 and I was selected as event director in 1981," she said.

Johnson not only works with special needs individuals at the Special Olympics, but teaches adapted physical education, a course that teaches students how to work with special needs

individuals. She also teaches restrictive activities classes that are designed to provide physical education for students with special needs.

In the early 1960s, Eunice Kennedy Striver started the Special Olympics as a day camp for the mentally challenged. The first games were held on July 20, 1968 at Soldier Field in Chicago.

The Special Olympics have taken place for the last 31 years in the District and has over

2,000 participating athletes.

There are 13 events including football, bowling, aquatics and speed skating.

Prior to the 1980s, all Special Olympics events were held on the same day. Problems arose when athletes competed in more than one sport causing the delay of many events.

The Special Olympics revamped the program so that only one event takes place per day so athletes can compete in as many events as possible.

Johnson strongly encouraged volunteers to come out so they gain a better understanding of the Special Olympics. She said, "students will be able to see athletes compete at a different level and truly understand the meaning of sportsmanship from the heart."

Students who wish to volunteer should come to the event anytime between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. A sign in table will be available starting at 8:30 a.m.

## EMPLOYEE of the WEEK

Jacqueline Joyner



Tia Gooden-Staff Photographer

BY KAREN BRUNDIDGE  
Contributing Writer

Howard University Plaza Towers Office Management Specialist Jacqueline Joyner guarantees that students will be greeted with a smile every time they enter the P12 office.

Working in the West Towers office since April 2004, Joyner is the first point of contact in the office and always eager to help Howard University students.

She also assists residents with housing payments, check-in and checkout, supervises student workers and assists the business manager with any administrative needs.

Her favorite part of the job is working with others.

"I'm a people person," Joyner said. "I like interacting with people, dealing with the everyday business of the people and just being around them. I love my co-workers and the residents. I don't wake up and not want to come to work."

Joyner has primarily held positions in customer service throughout her work experience and therefore understands what it takes to keep students satisfied when assisting them.

"If you've had a bad customer or life experience, you may become sensitive to other's needs," Joyner said. "So that's why I'm concerned that people do not feel bad when they leave this office."

For many students, it's easy to see what makes Joyner stand out from other Howard University employees.

"She's completely different from some of the employees in the administration building," senior biology major Lesley Bourne said. "No matter how her day has been, she's trying to help each and every student."

Junior advertising major Colleen Zellmer said she appreciated Joyner's sense of humor.

"By the stories she tells, she can be really funny sometimes, but she always prioritizes and gets her work done," Zellmer said.

Human Resource Director Rainey Chambers feels that Joyner's attitude toward others distinguishes her. "She walks in smiling and she leaves smiling."

See WEEK, Campus A5

## Hyman Seeks to Bridge Gap Between Students, Trustees

BY MELANIE R. HOLMES  
Campus Editor

Year: junior  
Major: history and political science  
Hometown: Memphis, T.N.

**The Hilltop:** What is your platform and can you please explain?

**Brooke Hyman:** I'm running under the platform of excellence because I feel that students deserve excellence from their student leaders. There's two points to my platform, participation communication and administration academics. Participation communication focuses on involving the student body, as well as, ensuring that students' voices are heard. I will have constant HUSA office hours as well as rotating office hours for undergraduate schools and colleges. I want to be visible to the students and gather accurate information to present to the Board of Trustees. The second part of my platform deals with the quality and service provided in the A building and the academic curriculum for undergraduate students. I want to ensure that flyers for general course requirements are more visible in each school and college as well as push for an academic audit to access the quality of curriculum provided to undergraduate students.

**TH:** Why are you running and what changes will come as a result of your administration?

**BH:** I'm running because I don't feel as though students are accurately represented on the Board. I want to make sure



Maya Gilliam-Senior Photo Editor

Brooke Hyman is a junior history and political science major running for undergraduate trustee.

students understand the role of the Board of Trustees. I want each student to feel as though the Board is open to the ideas and concerns of the students. I want to bridge the gap between the students and the Board.

**TH:** What campus/community leadership positions do you hold?

**BH:** I am the current director of the policy and development of HUSA. I serve on the Homecoming policy board. I work in the vice provost's office

for student affairs, I'm a resident assistant in Cook Hall and I'm one of the student facilitators for Howard University's leadership training. I have an internship in the Department of Justice.

**TH:** What qualifies you for the position and how would you advocate for students at the Board of Trustee meetings?

**BH:** My experience definitely qualifies me for the position. I've had the opportunity to

See HYMAN, Campus A3

## Student Designer Ushers in Nudae

BY APRIL DEBOSE  
Contributing Writer

Imagine sitting in the office of a clothing store on Fifth Avenue in New York City and the phone rings.

On the other end is producer extraordinaire Pharrell. He wants to order some hand-made shirts for himself and the rest of his band to wear in their next video.

This is what drives Timothy Slayton. With two clothing lines in the making, Slayton, a senior marketing major from Richmond, Va., is making his claim to fame. It was only two years ago when Slayton decided that he was tired of going to stores and seeing clothes that all looked alike; clothes that looked decent but could be improved in some way and clothes that were just not his style. So he just started making his own clothes.

"It was like a default deci-

sion," Slayton said. "I was seeing simple things saying 'I can do that,' so I did." Slayton said that he got a good response about his clothing and his friends talked him into making his own line.

Jarret Jackson, a senior advertising major and friend of Slayton, said that he always gets a very positive reaction and a lot of compliments whenever he has on one of Slayton's creations. Slayton's first line, Proper Ganda, is a creative twist to the everyday wear. This line consists of t-shirts and jeans like you've never seen before, giving a unique flavor to the uniformed look. The name Proper Ganda is a play on the word propaganda. While propaganda means misinformation, Proper Ganda is the right information and the right look. It gives the right message. According to Slayton, Brand Nudae is the more classy line

See NUDAE, Campus A3



Mark King-Staff Photographer

Unsatisfied with selection of clothing available to him, Timothy Slayton began making his own clothes.

## FACULTY SPEAK:

### What is the thing that annoys you most about students?

"When they don't take critical matters seriously."

Henry Joseph, advanced tv, videography, basic radio, tv and film

"When they [students] come in late and create classroom disruption."

Daryl Harris, Black politics

"Overall student laziness such as not being attentive in class, not taking school work seriously and not preparing for exams."

Michelle Glasby, introduction to media production

"Being late to class and not having the appropriate materials."

Mary C. Del Popolo, drawing and painting

"Failure (for some students) to regularly attend classes. It's not so much an annoyance to me but I know students are short-changing themselves when they don't show up for their classes."

Lafayette Frederick, mycology, introduction to biology

"What I don't understand is when students pay their money to come to get what I am paid to give them and they don't come to class."

Jesse Nicholson, chairman of chemistry department

"When I review my students in class and they show me that they have not studied."

Zacharie Petnkeu, French I

Compiled by Brittany Leaphart



# Jackson Late for Court

See **JACKSON**, Campus A1

Howard University students said if they were sitting in the juror's box they would not look favorably upon Jackson arriving to court late and in his pajamas. "I would think he's not taking this case seriously," said Joshua Dodds, a sophomore legal communications major. Dodds said he agreed with Judge Melville and that he would not have believed Jackson's explanation either. "I don't buy that story...he's Michael Jackson he should have people on hand to give him clothes and things like that given the seriousness of the case."

Despite Jackson's late arrival, the trial went on as scheduled. The pop star's teenage accuser took the stand for the second time this week. In his testimony, the now 15-year old boy said Jackson inappropriately touched him twice. "Yes," the boy replied when he was asked by Santa Barbara District Attorney Tom Sneddon if Jackson had ever touched him inappropriately. "...but I kind of feel like it was more than twice."

The boy said on a trip with Jackson to Miami, the 45-year old gave both he and his younger brother white wine in

a diet coke can, calling it "Jesus Juice." "I drank a little bit and told him it tasted ugly," the boy said. When he wanted to stop drinking, the boy told jurors he was urged by Jackson to continue. The boy said Jackson told him "it will relax you; I know you're all stressed out."

On the way back to Jackson's Never land ranch from Miami, the boy said Jackson gave him a \$75,000 watch and told him not to tell anyone about the "Jesus Juice." While at Never land, the boy said he and his brother drank alcohol with Jackson "every night" and slept in the same bed.

# Slayton Establishes Trendy Clothing Lines for Men

**NUDAE**, from Campus A2

with the button-up, polo look. "Brand Nudae is a fresh look for a new day," Slayton said. Pieces from Slayton's Brand Nudae line were featured in the 2004 Homecoming Fashion Show. "The Brand Nudae line is very different from what's out now because it is a couture line targeting younger men," Jackson said.

Cheikh Aidara agrees with Jackson that Brand Nudae is a distinctive line.

"His line is truly original and unique in everything it is, it's no holds barred," said

Aidara, a junior television production major. Aidara believes that Slayton will be successful in the future.

"He has the creativity, drive and the vision," Aidara said. "He's gonna get it, he always has." No one piece in either of the lines is exactly like another. Everything is handmade and everything is different.

"I hand-stitched everything to give it that homemade custom feel, you will have that one of a kind piece everytime," Slayton said. Slayton said that he wants to provide clothing for people who are off the beaten path, incorporating things in fashion that have never been seen before. Slayton plans to have a female

line coming in the fall of 2006 with the same themes and names as the male versions. Slayton says that his clothing will not be found in your major department store, but only in exclusive boutiques.

"It's for the fashion conscious individual who doesn't want to look like everyone else and to those types of individuals for whom fashion comes at no cost." With a webpage in development, Slayton says that he doesn't want to do a great deal of advertising. Instead, he wants the news to spread by word of mouth. He is now selling clothes by custom order and can be reached at brandnudae@aol.com.

# Howard Coach Packs His Bags

See **ALLEN**, Campus A1

Jason Trotter. "I was in disbelief," Trotter said. "I couldn't believe he was terminated as a head coach. I found out on Tuesday night after the banquet that he was not going to be with us and it was a long, long bus ride home."

"I was kind of shocked that it happened so fast," said sophomore guard Darek "Skip" Mitchell.

Before the arrival of Coach Allen, the Bison had a record of 3-52 from 1998-00. The former head coach at Virginia Tech and Tennessee State lead Howard to a 10-18 record in his first season.

The next year, the Bison had an 18-13, the best season in a decade at that time. They advanced to the MEAC Tournament title game for the first time since 1992.

Unfortunately they lost in the title game.

The next two seasons however would see the Bison moving backwards instead of forward following as they finished with an 11-17 record in 2002-2003, a 6-22 record in 2003-04 and 5-23 this season.

A big reason why the team really digressed this season was because of the academic ineligibility of key veterans like junior guard Louis Ford who missed the final 26 games of the season. The team was also without senior forward Bilal Russell because of an ankle injury. The teams leading scorer, sophomore forward Cliffone Ault did not play in the final eight games of the regular season because of personal reasons.

Ms. Norrell-Thomas is now in the process of putting together a search committee to select a replacement for Coach Allen. She also mention, according to

*The Washington Post* report that Assistant Coaches Dawud Abdur-Rahkman and Aki Thomas will continue in their capacity with the men's basketball program.

While no timetable is set to find the next basketball head coach for Howard, Thomas did say in *The Washington Post* report that, "We know it's important to have a coach in place. We're going to do what's best for the university."

No matter what new coach comes in, the team believes that they have to put their best foot forward in the off-season and get better.

"We have to come together as a team and work hard together to become a better team," said Mitchell.

Information Courtesy of *Bisonmania.com*

# Hyman Promotes Visibility

**HYMAN**, from Campus A2

work with the Board of Trustees for a corporation which really sets me a part from the rest of the candidates. Being involved with the student government and the relationship I've built with administrators and students. I've become very comfortable going into professional settings. It's just about having experience dealing with professionals and I know I can do it. I would advocate for the students by first knowing what the students concerns are and what the students are happy with. We need to praise the positive the positive things that are

going on.

**TH: How would you stay abreast of student concerns?**

**BH:** By keeping my office with HUSA and the rotating office hours with the schools and colleges. I will have a mid-term review of all the schools and colleges. I want random and sporadic checks within the A building, shuttle and dining service to check the quality and efficiency of the services they provide for the students. It would give me a qualitative and quantitative analysis to bring to the Board. Also, I will have monthly trustee meetings and

quarterly polls.

**TH:** Why should students vote for you?

**BH:** Students should vote for me because students have to demand excellence from student leaders and I know students would get excellence from me. Students should vote for me because they deserve excellence and that's what I'm going to give to them as undergraduate trustee. Students don't deserve excuses. I'm going to bring real solutions and visibility to make sure each student's concerns are heard and addressed.

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# Pedophilia Taking over Airwaves, Touching All Races

BY MIKE HOLMES  
Staff Writer

The Michael Jackson child molestation trial, the R. Kelly case and the conviction of defrocked Roman Catholic priest Maurice Blackwell have kept the issue of pedophilia in the headlines lately.

But no matter how well versed you may be in those cases, would you know if the person sitting next to you is a pedophile. "No, because there's no specific look. It's someone you least expect, it could be someone you just said hello to," Jason Humphrey a junior broadcast journalism major, said.

Humphrey is right according to Howard University psychology professor Dr. Jules Harrell. "You wouldn't be able to recognize every single one," Harrell said. Harrell illustrates this wolf in sheep's clothing aspect of a pedophilia as he talks of a former co-worker who turned out to be a pedophile. "We would have walked right by him in the mall," Harrell said. "He was a very well mannered fellow."

Pedophilia is a Greek term meaning love of children. It is one of nine categories of paraphilia. Paraphilia is unusual sexual urges, fantasies or behaviors involving nonhuman objects, children, non-consenting adults, suffering, or humiliation. Pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism, froterism, masochism, transvestic fetishism, sadism, fetishism and zoophilia are all paraphilia.

"There is a specific criteria for diagnosing someone as being a pedophile," said psychology

doctoral candidate Jeff Menzise. The Diagnostic Statistical Manual IV (DSM-IV), which scientifically classifies all known psychological disorders, defines a pedophile as person who for a period of at least six months has recurrent fantasies, sexual urges or behaviors with a prepubescent child or children.

Second, these fantasies, urges or behaviors cause clinically significant distress or impairment in areas of everyday functioning. Finally this person is at least 16 years of age and at least five years older than the child or children that are the object of the fantasies, urges or behaviors.

Both Harrell and Menzise agree that the strict criteria may almost overlook some questionable behaviors. "It doesn't negate behavior outside of the criteria," Menzise explained. This strict criterion also raises other questions. "Can you deal in child pornography and not be a pedophile? Case in point R. Kelly. Although charged with creating child pornography, Kelly would not be considered a pedophile clinically because he doesn't meet the DSM-IV criteria. The alleged victim was over 13 and had gone through puberty.

Treating pedophiles is just as gray a subject as diagnosing them. Harrell describes the process as difficult with no real way of knowing if a patient is actually cured. He likened the process to trying to learn a new language as an adult. "What you are talking about is a major reconstruction of personality," Harrell explained.

If you can't detect a pedophile just by looking and treatment has no guarantees, what can you do?

L. Olivia Jones is a social worker/therapist for

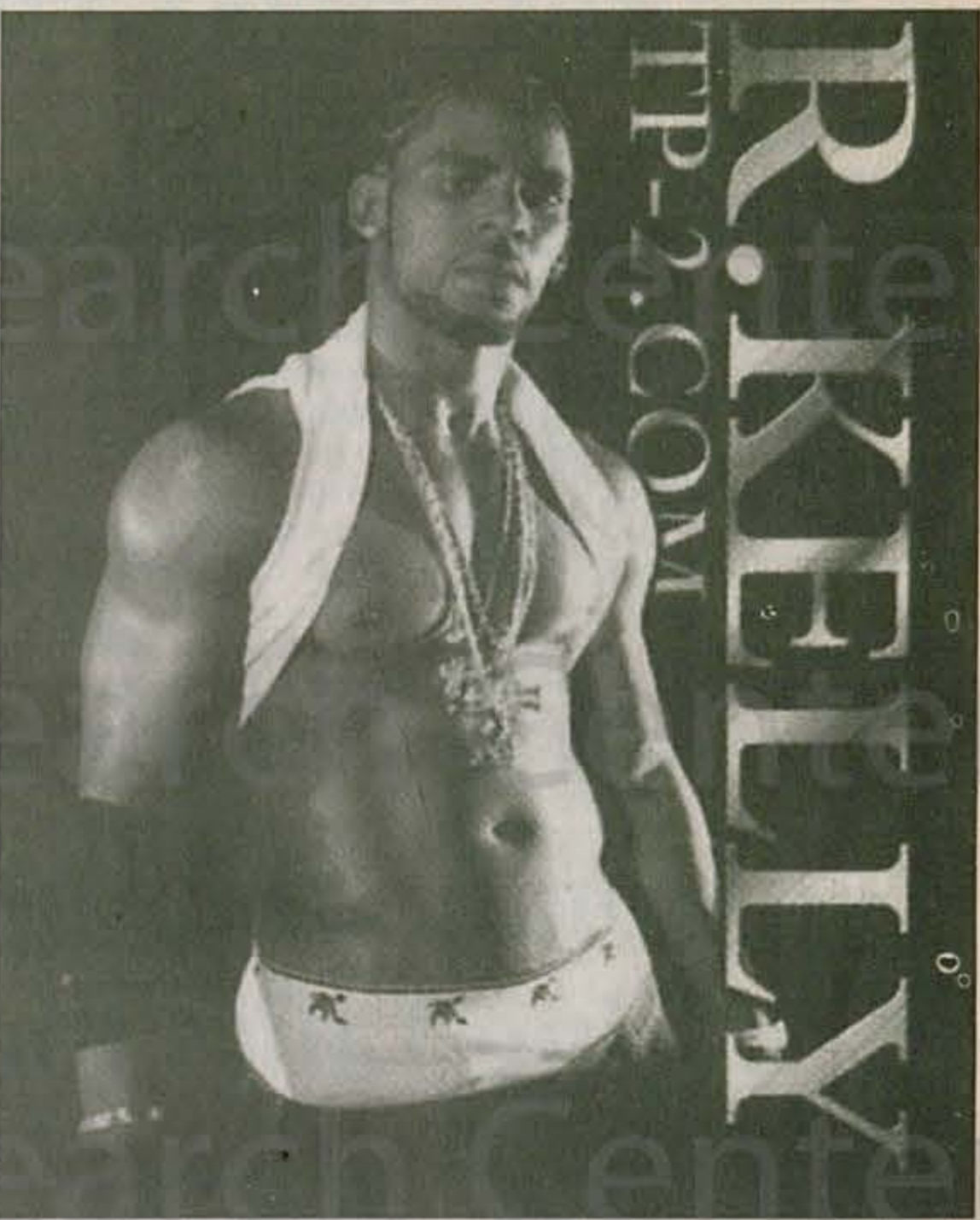
the National Center for Children and Families.

She finds permanent homes for foster children who have been abused and neglected including those who have been molested.

She recommends if you suspect a neighbor, coworker or even a friend is possibly a pedophile, check into the issue.

One method of doing so is the Internet. Sex offender registries are available for every state online. "I have seven [sex offenders] in my zip code," Jones said. Jones did make a distinction between pedophiles and sex offenders. "Every sex offender is not a pedophile but every pedophile is a sex offender," Jones added.

Some drawbacks to the online registries are that they come at a cost. The National Alert Registry (<http://www.national-alertregistry.com>) has a one-time fee of \$10. Another drawback and probably the most important is that the registries only identify convicted sex offenders. Any pedophile that has managed to avoid prosecution can roam at large with no detection.



Cases like singer R. Kelly and Michael Jackson's have thrown the issue of pedophilia into the nations headlines.

# United Nation Peacekeepers Soon to Leave the Congo

BY SHARI LOGAN  
Contributing Writer

A few days after nine Bangladesh United Nations (UN) peacekeepers were killed in the Ituri region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a country that has been experiencing civil unrest since 1999, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) suspended assistance to this country.

The persons responsible for this incident that took place nearly two weeks ago are Floribert Njabu, President of the Nationalist Integrationist Front (FNI), Goda Sopka, also from FNI, and Germain Katanga, from the Patriotic Resistance Forces in Ituri.

As a result of OCHR's decision, at least 40,000 people who were using the refugee camps in Kakwa and Tchete are now without medical help and food as well as another 54,000 who were recently

displaced from their homes in Ituri. 70,000 people who were displaced over the past two months due to the ongoing conflicts between the Hema and Lendu ethnic tribes.

"The deteriorating security situation in and around Kakwa, Tchete and Gina no longer allows the distribution of food items or vital medical and water interventions for the IDPs (internally displaced people)," said OCHA's Modibo Traore.

"I don't think they should've stop assistance, but at the same time relief is like a band-aid-it just helps the situation it doesn't find a solution," says Michael Betru a sophomore majoring in political science and philosophy. "I also feel that the UN, as organization of European countries, has a responsibility to Africa because a lot of this country's problems are rooted in colonialism."

In fact the Congo was a former colony of Belgium. When Laurent Kabila ousted Mobutu Sese Seko,

who was the leader of then Zaire for power for over 30 years, in 1997 trouble soon followed. A year later Rwanda and Uganda forces tried to take over the capital city of Kinshasa but failed. However, they did gain control of much of the Eastern Congo.

By this time Zimbabwe, Angola, Namibia, Chad, and Sudan had sent their own troops to support the Kinshasa regime. Killings and other act of violence occurred between the pro- and anti- Kinshasa groups. A cease-fire was signed on July 10, 1999 by the Congo, Zimbabwe, Angola, Uganda, Namibia, Rwanda, and Congolese armed rebel groups, but sporadic fighting continued.

That's when the United Nations stepped in and sent 4800 peacekeepers to the "mineral-rich" region. The group of soldiers in Ituri alone is made up of 850 soldiers from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Morocco and Nepal.

However, during the past six years the previously mentioned tribes are responsible for the death of at least 50,000 civilians.

"The situation going on in the Congo is very huge and the UN should help because the Congolese have no facilities or money to fend for themselves," said Taiwo Otitoju, a freshman International Business leader.

Another cause of instability in this area is the fact that it has several goldmines which are exploited by international and Congolese businessmen. These businessmen hire local militiamen to protect their land-their profits.

Dr. Gregory Carr, a professor of African-American studies was not surprised that the United Nations backed out, considering the fact that their main monetary supporter is the United States.

"To the western world, there




Nine Bangladesh UN soldiers were killed by Congolese refugee fighters.

Carr added that Africa can solve her own problems and now its time for neighboring countries to do their share and value African lives.

are no countries in Africa, just resources, " Carr said. "The fact that gold mining efforts have gone undisturbed even though countless people are dying is the reason why the UN pulled out."

## Nation & World Briefs



### Note May Be Clue in Chicago Judge Murders

A note, discovered by Chicago Police after a man committed suicide near Milwaukee, Wisconsin, may help investigators solve the murder mystery of who killed the mother and husband of U.S. District Judge Joan Humphrey Lefkow.

The man, identified as Bart Ross, shot himself in the head after he was stopped by authorities investigating a broken taillight. Left behind was a note from Ross, in which he claimed responsibility for the murders of Michael Lefkow and Donna Grace Humphrey.

Local authorities released little information after the killing, telling reporters the matter is still under investigation. Authorities asked for the media not to assume that Ross is responsible for the slayings.

"We have not definitively tied this individual to the Lefkow murders," said James Finch, special agent in charge of the FBI's Milwaukee division, to reporters. Ross had appeared before Lefkow in court sometime prior to the murders. Many are speculating that Ross may have made Lefkow a target because she ruled against him in a medical malpractice lawsuit.

Michael Lefkow and Donna Humphrey were found dead on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2005 after being shot execution style in the Lefkow's Chicago home.

### Pakistan Gave Iran Centrifuges for Nukes

Pakistani officials said Thursday that scientist A.Q. Khan, Pakistan's leading nuclear scientist, sold Iran centrifuges that could be used to build a nuclear bomb.

"He had given centrifuges to Iran in his individual capacity," Sheikh Rashid Ahmed told CNN in an interview. Ahmed denies any involvement from the Pakistani government. "...the government of Pakistan had nothing to do with this." Khan has confessed to giving Libya parts and enriched uranium for a weapons program. Libya

has since eliminated its weapons program.

### Report Says FBI Struggling to Locate Sleeper Cells

A 32-page report released this week by the FBI says the agency knows Al-Qaeda intends to strike again on American soil and that agents are having trouble detecting the terrorist group.

"Al-Qaeda's leadership's intention to attack the United States is not in question," the report read. "...limited reporting since March indicates Al-Qaeda has sought to recruit and train individuals to conduct attacks in the United States, but is inconclusive as to whether they have succeeded in placing operatives in this country..To date we have not identified any true sleeper cells in this country."

The report is significant because officials say, America's security depends on law enforcement's ability to detect Al-Qaeda members who may be living in the United States unnoticed. "...We believe Al-Qaeda's capability to launch attacks within the United States is dependent on its ability to infiltrate and maintain operatives in the United States," the report read.

### Clerics Issue Fatwa Against Bin Laden

On the first anniversary of the Madrid train bombing, Muslim clerics in Spain issued what they called the first ever Fatwa against Osama Bin Laden.

The Fatwa, issued by the Islamic Commission of Spain, called for Muslims around the world to condemn Bin Laden and his Al-Qaeda network. "In accordance with the Quran, the terrorist acts of Osama Bin Laden and his organization Al-Qaeda are totally banned and must be roundly condemned as part of Islam," the Fatwa read. Friday marks the first anniversary of the Madrid train bombing. The bombing killed 191 people.

### Clinton Resting After Surgery

Former President Bill Clinton is resting comfortably after undergoing surgery Thursday morning to remove fluid and scar tissue from his chest.

Doctors said the tissue and fluid was reducing Clinton's lung capacity. A full recovery is expected, but Clinton will have to remain in the hospital for three to 10 days. Clinton, 58, underwent a quadruple heart bypass in September after doctors discovered that some of his arteries were more than 90 percent blocked.

Compiled by Kevin Harris  
Nation & World Editor



### The Sudan Needs Billions for Recovery And Development

Nearly 7 billion is needed for post-war recovery initiatives in the Sudan. The emergency reconstruction report, entitled: "Framework for Sustained Peace, Development and Poverty Eradication in Sudan", was officially launched at a news conference in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, on Wednesday.

The Sudanese government and SPLM/A teams have crystallizes ideas for major development challenges following 21 years of civil war in the south.

"The process started a year ago when the peace was not yet signed, but today, the report has been endorsed and we are working as a team," Yahia Hossein Babiker, the chairman of the Joint Assessment Mission (JAM), whose membership includes the government, UN agencies, the SPLM/A and the World Bank, told reporters during the launch of the report.

### Rwanda Adopts a New Prosecution Strategy

Since the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) was created in 1994, the Office of the Prosecutor (OTP) has modified its strategy many times. In the past entire groups where prosecuted, but the tribunal is moving towards individual prosecutions.

Each of the 17 people currently awaiting trial has their own separate indictment, meaning that they will each be tried individually. One example is that of Colonel Tharcisse Muvunyi, whose trial opened February 28, 2005.

Today, the strategy of having joint trials seems to be a thing of the past. Experience has shown that individual trials take a shorter time to complete than joint trials. Many of the latter have met with serious problems of completion.

A point of fact is that in the year 2003, the

tribunal completed four individual trials and each took less than 12 months to conclude. The trial of Mika Muhimana, a former municipal Councillor, holds the record of having taken both parties nine months to present their cases.

Economically, individual trials are more feasible, with fewer witnesses to call, as well as less time filing motions.

### President Mbeki Applauds South African Film Director

President Tabo Mbeki has commended Zola Maseko for winning a top award for his film Drum at Africa's premier film festival in Burkino Faso at the weekend.

Mr. Maseko won the "crown of olives" accolade made famous by the Greek historian Herodotus. President Mbeki said through the film, Maseko and his crew reminded South Africans of their victory as a nation.

"The Drum story evokes powerful memories of opposition, in picture and word, to the tyranny of apartheid and of the mettle of key players such as Henry Nxumalo and Anthony Sampson," said the President.

Mr. Mbeki added that South African filmmakers had placed the country on the global stage.

### Namibia Recount Shows Democratic Progress

Two Namibian opposition parties won a court ruling on Thursday ordering a recount of the ballots from last year's election.

Judge President Petrus Damaseb said the recount should start within five days of the judgement, with the results announced on 20 March - one day before Namibia's new government is to be sworn in.

He set aside the application by the opposition Congress of Democrats (CoD) and the Republican Party (RP) to have the polls declared null and void, but the Electoral Commission, a government body, was ordered to pay the legal costs of the parties.

We now have a lot of work ahead of us, should the recount of some 830,000 votes start on Monday as the High Court ordered," said Tsudao Gurirab, national chairman of CoD. "There is not much time, if results are to be announced by 20 March."

Compiled by Maxine Moffet  
Asst. Nation & World Editor



# Joyner Takes Home Employee of the Week

WEEK, from Campus A2

ing," Chambers said. "Some have even given her the nickname 'Happy Jacquie'."

Joyner's inspiration comes from her faith in Jesus Christ. She said that although living up to Christian standards could be high, she still tries and gets back up when she falls down.

"She's really a very comforting person," Angel Thomas-Cade, a receptionist at the West Towers front desk, said. "She goes out of her

way to try to help and she'll even take the time out and pray with you."

In addition to working at the University, Joyner is also involved in the television ministry in her church.

"I enjoy writing Christian-oriented scripts and also acting in plays at my church," Joyner said.

Additionally, she is working on her masters in business administration with a concentration in marketing. She plans on putting in double the effort by also work-

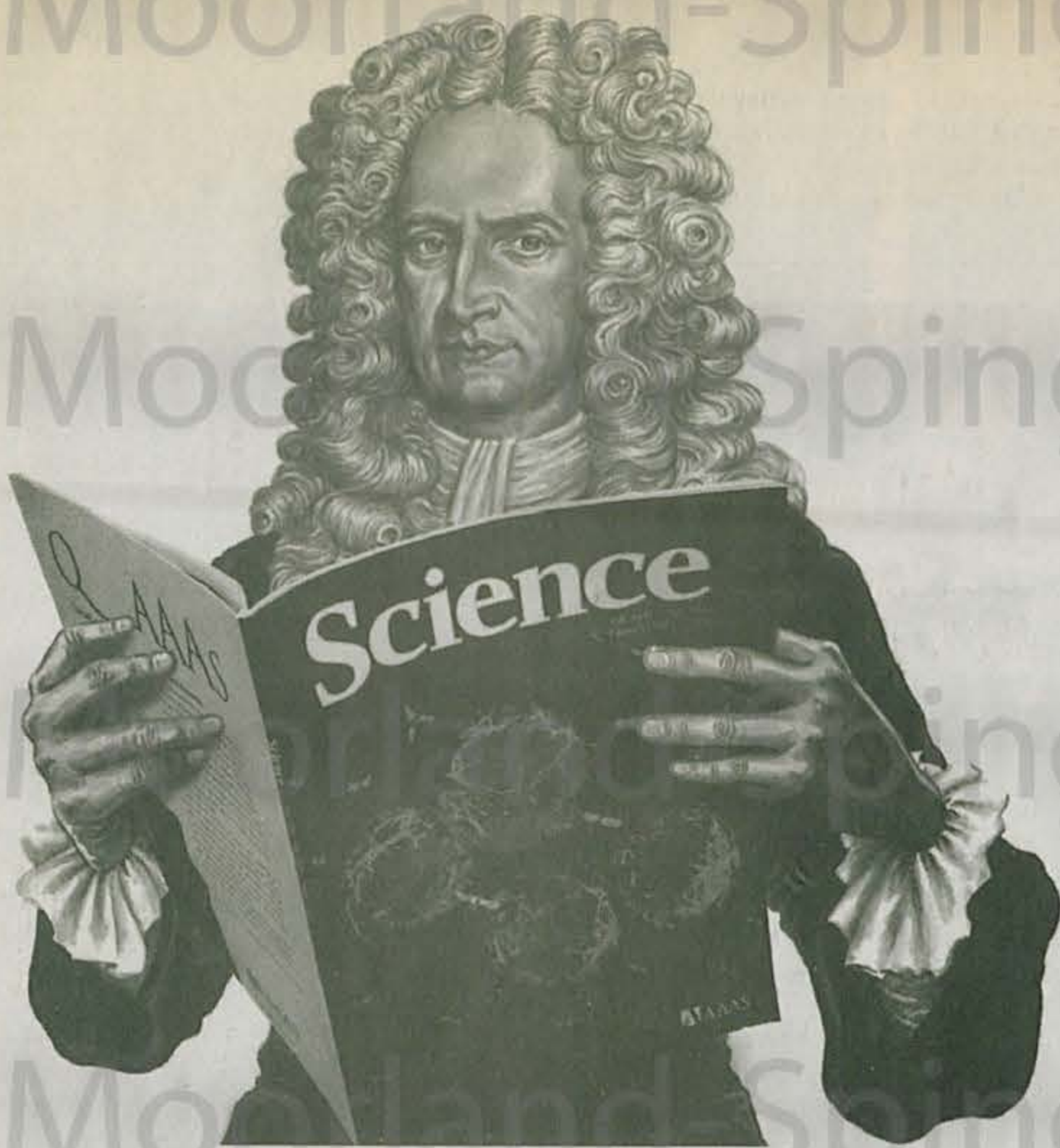
ing on a degree in divinity. Her long-term goal is to own a performing arts center and non-profit organization.

"I want my non-profit organization to help un-wed mothers find their career niches," Joyner said.

Although she loves her job at Howard, her other long-term goal is to be in ministry full-time and she lives by the following words of encouragement: "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he."

## Looking for a career that defies the law of gravity?

Then talk to someone who knows science.

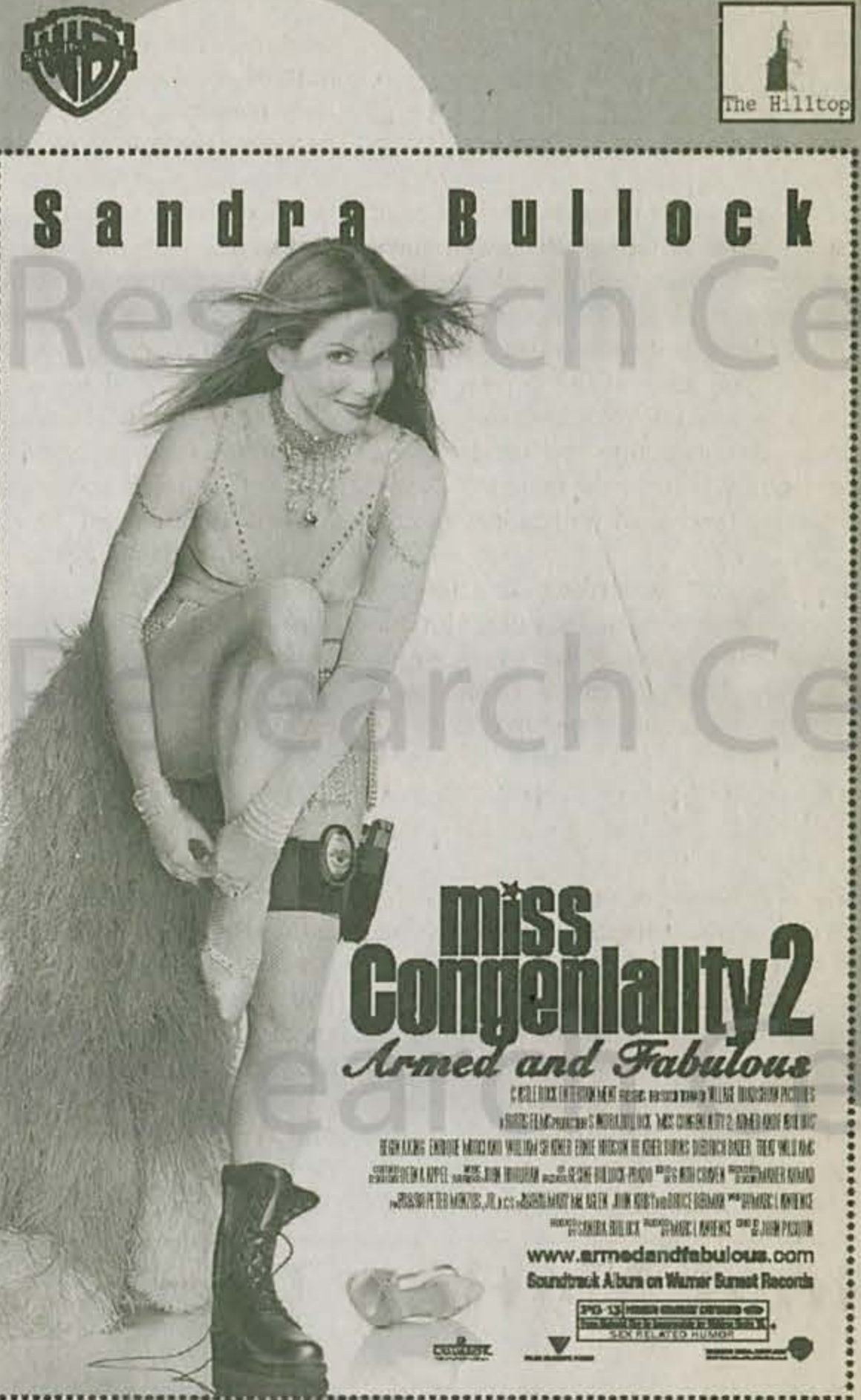
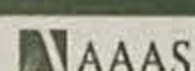


Isaac Newton 1642-1727

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Passes will be available starting Tuesday, March 8.

To receive passes, please come to The Hilltop office in the West Towers.

Limit One Pass per person. Each pass admits 2. No purchase necessary. Passes must be picked up in person. Passes available while supplies last. Seating is on a first-come, first served basis and is NOT guaranteed.

**Miss Congeniality 2**  
*Armed and Fabulous*

**OPENS IN THEATRES THURSDAY, MARCH 24th!**

The BISON Policy Board is currently seeking applicants for the 2005-2006:

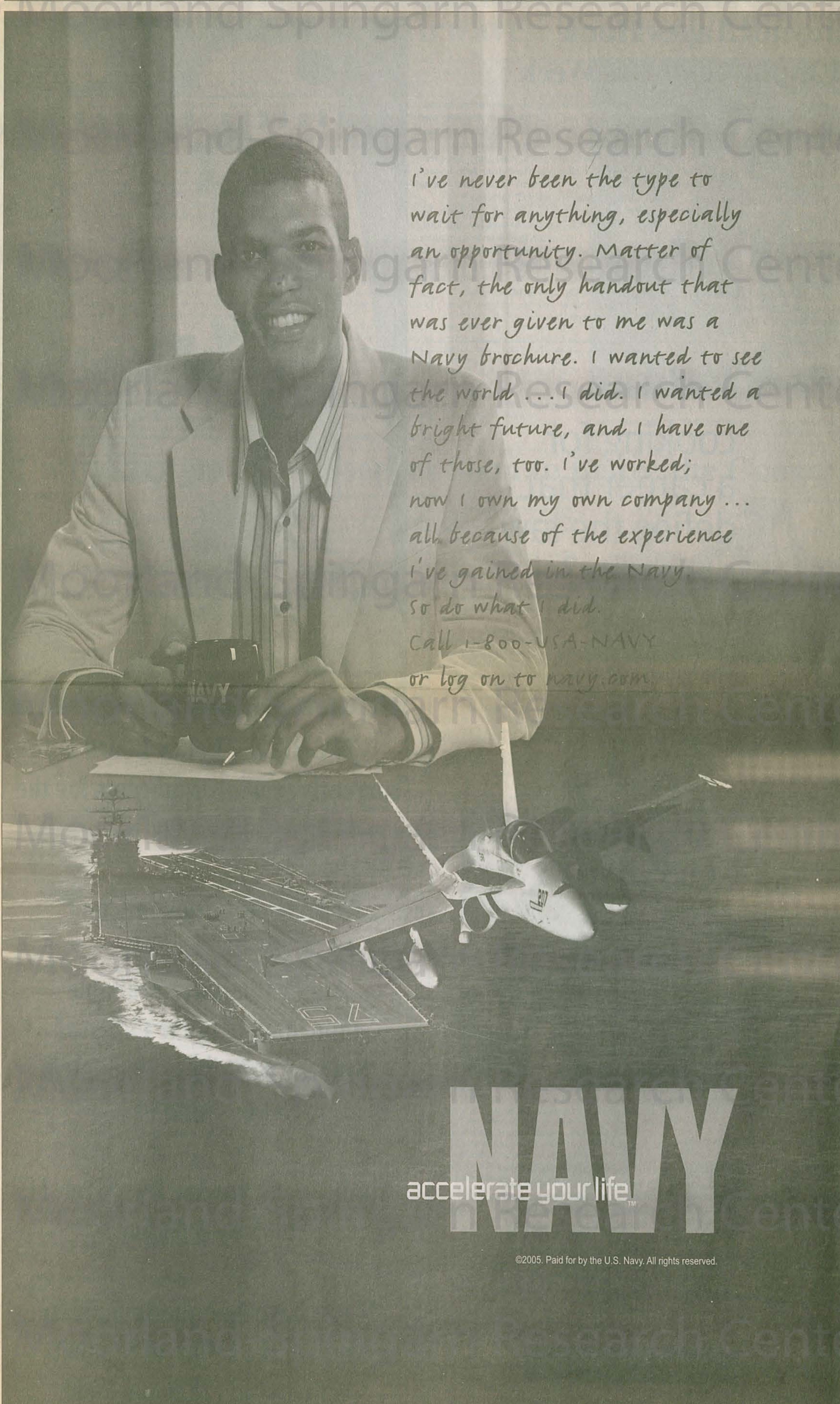
**Yearbook Editor-in-Chief**

Applications are available immediately in the Office of Student Activities, Blackburn Center Suite 117.

Applications are due by March 11, 2005 by 5:00 pm.

If you have any question please contact the Office of Student Activities at (202) 806-7000.





*i've never been the type to wait for anything, especially an opportunity. Matter of fact, the only handout that was ever given to me was a Navy brochure. I wanted to see the world ... I did. I wanted a bright future, and I have one of those, too. I've worked; now I own my own company ... all because of the experience I've gained in the Navy. So do what I did. Call 1-800-USA-NAVY or log on to [navy.com](http://navy.com).*

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# EDITORIALS & PERSPECTIVES

VOLUME 88, NO. 50

FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2005

www.thehilltoponline.com

## Help the Poor Make The Money

This week, Congress voted against raising the minimum wage rate, leaving millions of workers to continue to support themselves with \$5.15 per hour.

Although members of both political parties supported an increase, the figure remained stagnant as a result of politics involving the increase including the impact on economy growth and small businesses.

The current rate has been set since 1997 and over the 80-year period, inflation as a result of economy growth has made it even more difficult for workers to support survive with their current pay rate. For full-time employees, \$5.15 per hour equates to a little less than \$10,000 per year to support themselves and maybe even a family.

We can't understand why members of Congress cannot come to some agreement and make things easier for U.S. workers who struggle with their meager salary.

It is disappointing to see that an institution that is supposed to represent the people cannot come to a hasty decision

sands per year, enough to pay the salaries of 10 to 20 employees who do not work at the same corporate level.

These individuals live comfortably and can afford many luxuries while the people that work for them cannot afford a car or gas to put in the car to get to a job that does not pay enough to support one person. We believe these companies are more concerned with the inconvenience than the hardship.

It is estimated that as many as one-third of Congress members are millionaires. We find it ironic that millionaires are making decisions for the people who struggle to support themselves and are more concerned with the well being of business than the individual who has a family to support.

It is disappointing to see that the government acknowledges the effects of inflation on the economy, but are not willing to come to a compromise to help the people adjust to the change.

### Our View:

***It is not fair that millionaires are making poor decisions on behalf of poor citizens.***

in favor of the people that they represent.

We understand that raising minimum wage is not that simple because it can cause hardships to small businesses that cannot afford the increase.

However, there are federal laws that protect these small businesses when minimum wage increases. Furthermore, the majority of workers who receive this pay rate work for restaurants and grocery stores owned by large companies who make millions in sales everyday.

The CEO and board members of these companies receive a salary of hundreds of thou-

## What Really Happened With the LATEX Party

BY JENNIFER HUNTER  
LOUISIANA CLUB VICE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Louisiana and Texas Club officers we would like to be the first to officially apologize to those patrons who were turned away from this year's annual LATEX party.

We are issuing this apology to those who had nothing to do with the chaos and mayhem that ensued due to some students' lack of personal control. These two clubs worked very hard to ensure that students would be safe and able to have a nice time. However, due to circumstances that were out of our jurisdiction we could not prevent the situation that took place.

It is unfortunate that college-aged individuals, and

Black people for that matter, cannot simply stand in a line. It is this juvenile and embarrassing behavior that caused the highly anticipated event to get shut down prior to starting.

Those of you who acted unruly should not only be embarrassed by your actions, but also by the way in which you represented yourselves and your university. These individuals acted in a way that is truly detrimental to our reputation and contradicts the many values, goals and dreams that many students are here working hard to attain.

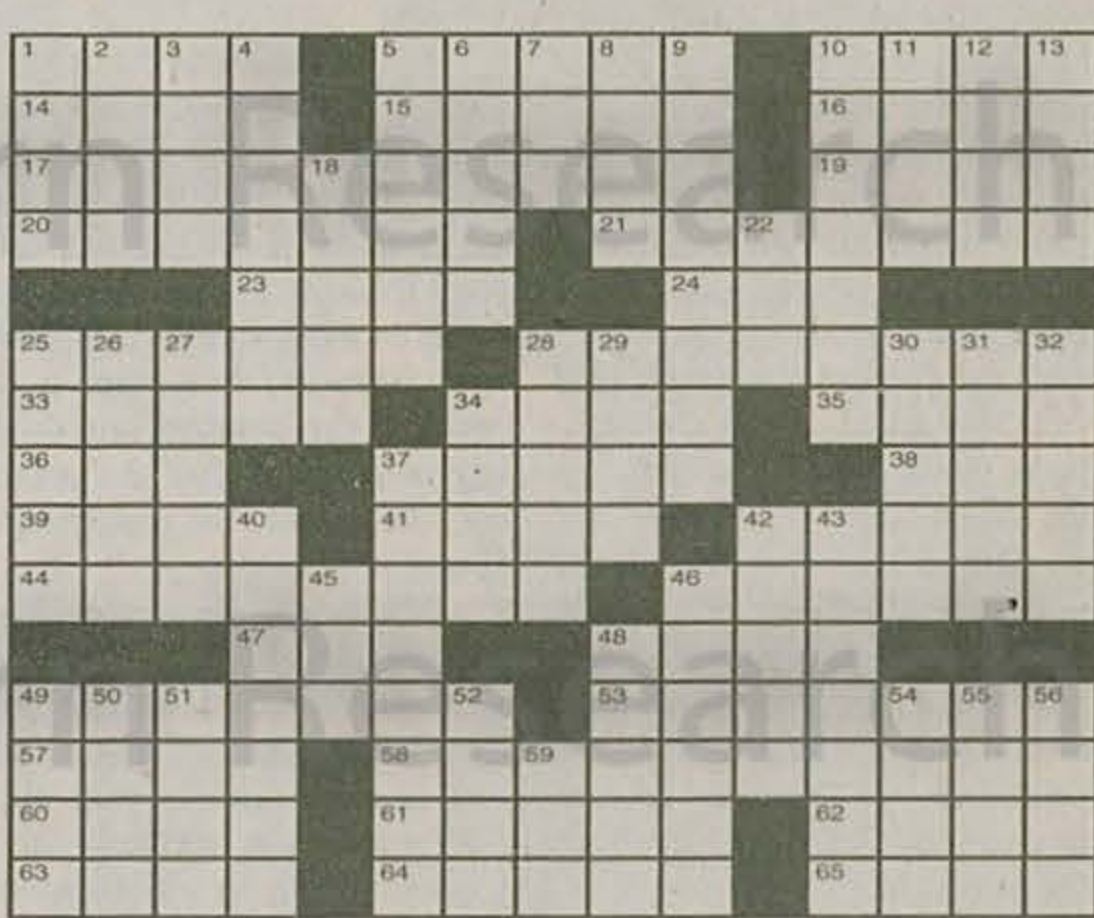
You must realize that everything you do is much bigger than yourselves, and that in a world where Black people are not given a fair chance, we should never act in a way that would give any other group of

people another reason to deny us respect.

We are a beautiful people and unfortunately, that night, many of you did not conduct yourselves in that manner. It is easy to place blame on the club, or on the promoters of the event as opposed to taking responsibility for your own disorderly actions.

You are an adult now and it is time that you face the reality that you can no longer make everyone else the scapegoat. So for those of you who unfortunately braved the cold and were victims of your peers' selfish behavior we will stand in their place and apologize and we do hope that this incident will not discourage you from attending any future LATEX events.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



By Roger Jurgovan  
Potomac, MD

3/11/05

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3/11/05

## THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

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Now in its 81st year, The Hilltop is published Monday through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of more than 10,000, The Hilltop is the largest Black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial and Perspectives Page are the views of The Hilltop Editorial Board and those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Hilltop Editorial Board, Howard University, its administration or the student body.

The Hilltop encourages its readers to share their opinions with the newspaper through letters to The Editor or Perspectives. All letters should include a complete address and telephone number and should be sent electronically on our website at www.thehilltoponline.com.

The Hilltop editorial office is located at, 2251 Sherman Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001 and can also be reached via email at www.thehilltoponline.com and by phone at (202)806-4724. The Hilltop business office can be reached via email at hilltopbusiness@yahoo.com and by phone at (202)806-4749.

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The Hilltop wants to read what  
you have to say. Submit a  
500 word perspective to  
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# Spring Break Countdown: 1 Day

## Warm Thoughts: Cancun, Mexico

BY MIKE HOLMES  
Hilltop Staff Writer

"Spring break in Cancun... it's wild," according to Paul Gujral, owner of Dream Travel in Arlington. The numerous episodes of MTV's Spring Break support the notion.

Walking down the street in Cancun it's easy to forget you

### Hot Spot Fact Sheet

**Location:** Cancun

**Distance from HU:** 1,493 miles

**By Car:** 32 hours 30 mins. (mapquest.com)

**By Plane:** 4.5 hours

**Average March Temp:** Mid 80s (weather.com)

**Places to Visit:** Fat Tuesday, Senor Frog, Coco Bongo

are in Mexico. Cancun has all the creature comforts of home in the U.S. There's a McDonalds or a Subway every half-mile. If you want to sit down for a meal there are plenty of seafood restaurants. There's even an Outback Steakhouse and a Ruby Tuesday's.

For the shopoholics there's a brand new luxury mall. You can find Louis Vuitton, Saks 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., and others. Long story short, if it is ridiculously expensive they've got. And even if you just need a pair of flip-flops, head down the road to the Wal-Mart.

But no one goes to Cancun to shop at Wal-Mart. Especially during spring break. Cancun has more to offer than just reminders of home. Beaches and clubs are the main attraction in this sizzling city south of the border.

The beaches there are gorgeous. The cityscape leads right into the near-white sands that border aquamarine and turquoise waters stretching to the horizon. And topless sunbathing, while not completely common, is not as frowned upon (or quite as illegal) as it is here in the U.S.

But despite the lovely scenery, there are reminds that this

is virtually a whole other world. As you stroll down the beach, occasionally stepping over a beach towel or a sandcastle, you'll notice what almost looks to be hundreds of beached whales.

But the wildlife is not what causes this appearance. They are actually huge white sand bags. Many beach-goers use them to walk further out into the turquoise sea and take pictures or even sunbathe. There true purpose, however, is to prevent the beach from eroding away, which has the potential to decimate the picturesque shore.

Those who favor the alternative uses of the bags are advised to be careful. The reddish-brown part of the sandbag is algae and is very slippery and in the hospital with a head injury is no way to spend a vacation.

But once visitors have had their fill of the beach for they day and darkness falls upon the city, the vibrant nightlife begins.

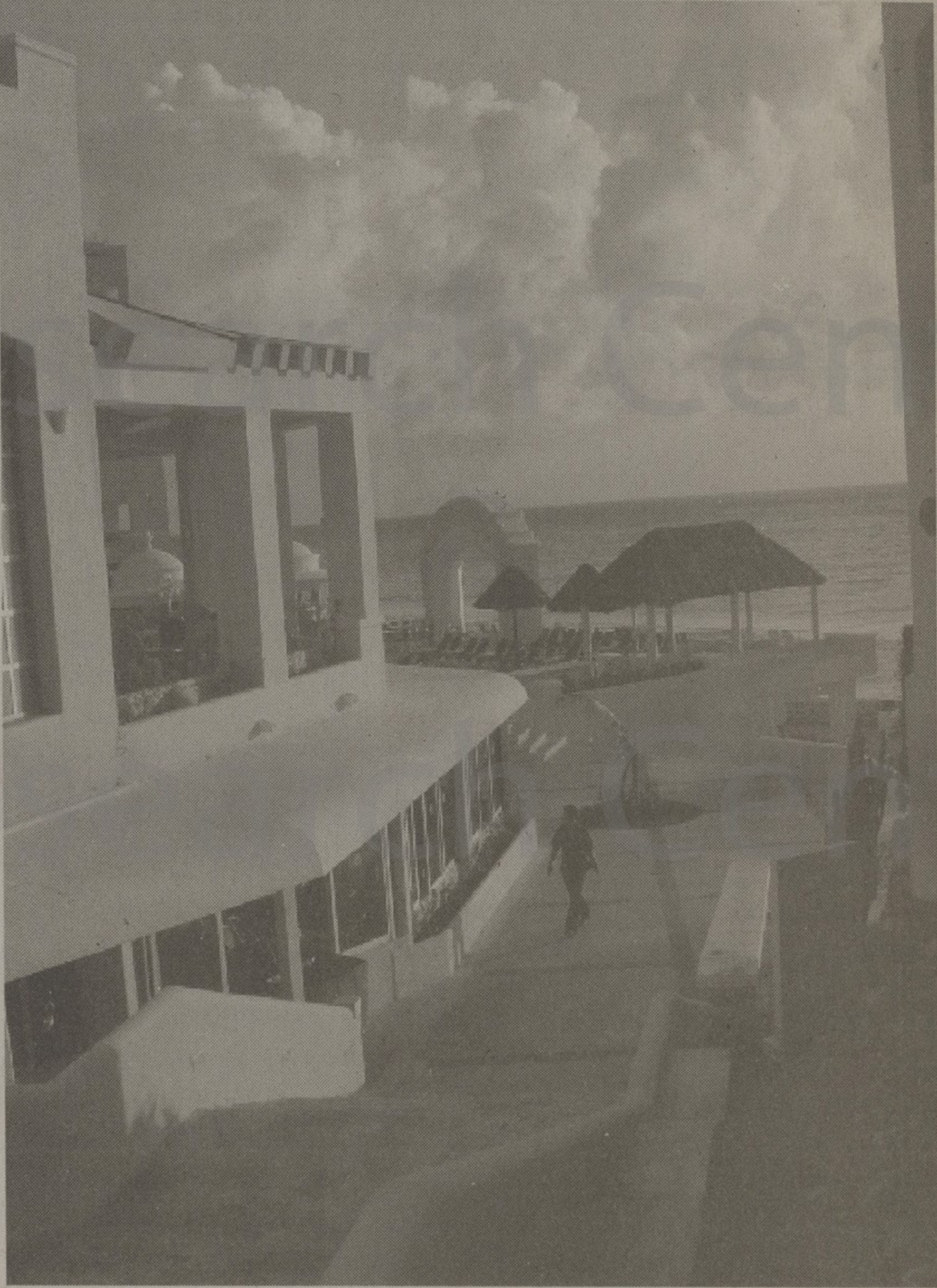
"You can't go without going to a club," says Gujral. Some of the clubs Gujral recommends are Senior Frog's, Daddy-O's, CoCo Bongo, Bulldog and Fat Tuesday's, "MTV is usually

there," Gujral added.

Another fact that lets American tourists know that they are no longer in America is the fact that the drinking age in Mexico is 18. This three-year head-start on the United States drinking age is what thrills some college students most. Another little known fact that may also thrill them is that every club in Cancun is all you can drink. That is not a typo.

There are two ways to approach the club scene in Cancun. Thirty-five dollars will get you into one club. For \$50 you can do a club hop. Party goers meet at a designated starting point around 8 p.m. From there, the groups of people who have mostly just met go to a different club every two hours. Transportation is provided and there is a guide that brings the drinks, which are included in the price, all night long. Gujral recommends the club hop, for maximum value.

Spring breakers traveling to Cancun will be in for maximum value on their break, enjoying some of the comforts of home, but still getting the experience of a whole different country.



Mike Holmes - Hilltop Staff

This beautiful scenery is only one of the many pleasures that await spring breakers venturing to Cancun, Mexico for their spring break experience.

## SPRING BREAK ADVISORY

### Fighting Insecurity With Travel Safety

BY CHARLAÉ WASHINGTON  
Hilltop Staff Writer

As Spring Break approaches, many students are making plans to go on vacation. Whether students are traveling overseas or only a few hours away, safety is an important issue.

Since 9/11, many airports and other travel hubs have heightened security, guarding against potential terrorist attacks. Additional luggage scanning, ID checks and other measures have been employed to ensure that travelers are safe.

"Some security measures are good but some are a little overboard. Like the half hour of time of that you have to stay seated and cannot use electronics when arriving or departing National Airport," said Josh Thomas, a freshman print journalism major.

However, travel dangers range far beyond the threat of terrorist attacks, which these measures are in place to protect against. Food and water contamination can be an issue when traveling internationally.

"I would be afraid of food poisoning, if I were going to a place where the food was very unfamiliar," said Alexis Taylor, a freshman television production major. "When my family went to the Bahamas, we carried our own water."

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), travelers can contact afflictions such as *E. coli* infections, hepatitis A, typhoid fever, salmonella, cholera, rotavirus infections, a variety of protozoan and helminthic parasites and a plethora of other diseases.

The CDC has offered some suggestions to keep travelers healthy. Travelers should avoid salads, uncooked vegetables and unpasteurized milk and milk products and stray away from purchasing food from street vendors.

Tropical tourists should be especially careful, as areas of the Caribbean and the Pacific and Indian Oceans contain fish that can carry fatal ciguatera poisoning, even after being well cooked. Water should be boiled for at least three minutes or pur-

chased bottled.

Another threat that is popping up no matter the location of the trip is the potential danger of computer hackers, viruses or worms gaining access to laptops via public wireless networks in places like airports.

A well-configured firewall is essential for any laptop that has wireless capabilities because, at a minimum, they may pick up a Trojan, a virus or other malicious software, and later transfer it to the company network. Even with encryption turned on, a Wi-Fi network is inherently insecure because the encryption used is weak. Most students are not aware of the possibility of their computers being infiltrated.

"As far as computer hackers in wireless networks in airports, I didn't really know anything about that. Ignorance is bliss," Thomas said.

Identity theft can also be an issue, especially for those traveling with credit cards. If someone gets a hold of your credit card or social security number, they can use your information to make unauthorized purchases. Most identity theft victims are not responsible for money spent under fraud, but straightening out the credit mess and restoring your credit and name can be a slow, painstaking process.

"I don't have any credit

cards. I use Traveler's Checks. They're just like cash, except if they get lost or stolen, you can call and get replacements," Taylor said.

Another common component of a trip that may pose a security issue is the hotel. Travelers staying in hotels should never leave the room without locking their door and should not give their room numbers to strangers. It is also advisable that women traveling alone should book reservations using only their first initial and last name, to prevent being singled out by any persons searching specifically for unaccompanied females.

However, a large part of being safe while traveling is just utilizing common sense. Travel with at least one friend in unfamiliar areas. If directions are needed, it is best to try to ask a uniformed official or go walk into a business. Keeping your cell phone battery charged or change for a pay phone call on you are also good ideas. The most important thing is to think before acting and pay attention to what's going on.

If students follow certain simple rules of both travel and logic, they should have no trouble navigating the potentially dangerous world of traveling and the insecurity will be left to the swimsuits and such.



www.acclaimimages.com

Traveling may involve many safety hazards and students are advised to act with caution and common sense to avoid many of them.

### Unwanted Spring Break Souvenirs

BY BRITTNEY JOHNSON  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Whatever happens during Spring Break stays in spring break, right? After the beach and the clubs, some spring breakers return with more than pictures to remind them about their spring break adventures. Many students recommend that

wild vacationers get tested for sexually transmitted diseases upon return.

The short term, spur of the moment attitude that many students adopt during for Spring Break can increase the likelihood of risky sexual behaviors. Therefore, in light of all of the diseases floating around, many students believe that they should get tested before and after the break.

"I think it's a good idea for people to get tested before and after, so they know what they went down there with, and what they're coming back with," said Tanesha Terry, a freshman television production major.

Being knowledgeable about their present sexual health, students can make better decisions concerning the preservation of their healthiness, or how to avoid spreading the infections.

Fortunately for those who might engage in sexual activity during their Spring Break, condoms are lightweight, inexpensive and do not require a prescription, making them easy to obtain, and perfect for travel.

Spring Break is not the only time that students should get tested. There are people that get infected while in long term "monogamous" relationships. Therefore, it is very important to get tested, regardless of the type of relationship that someone is in.

Lauren Fleming, a sophomore television production major, still gets tested even though she is in a committed relationship.

"You can never be too sure about who you think you're with! Just be safe and get tested," she said.

For sexually active students, who want to continue to enjoy good sexual health or learn about the current status of their bodies, there are many options.

Health  
cen-

THE TEMP MIGHT  
NOT BE THE ONLY  
HEAT BURNING THIS  
SPRING!!!

ters such as Planned Parenthood, and the Howard University Health Center, are great resources for students who want to regularly check their status.

Working by the motto, "Providing Promoting Protecting Health", Planned Parenthood is open five days a week and offers an array of services to people of all ages at reduced cost or for free. They offer the PAP test, birth control, treatment for infections, STD testing, HIV testing and emergency contraception.

The Howard University Health Center is open to all students and offers many of the same services, right on campus. Students are encouraged to take advantage of the health center because the fees are included in their tuition.

Sophomore nursing major Irnise Fennell believes that many young people should go to one of

the above places to get tested every six months. She believes that many people avoid getting tested because they are scared to find out that they have been infected. "This applies to anything, even cancer. It seems as if once people find out, things seem to disintegrate," she said.

Although she understands the fear of dealing with such knowledge, she still encourages others to get checked out as soon as possible.

"The earlier you catch something, the better," Fennell said.

The catchy BET commercials showing lovers, who are ignorant about their partners' sexual history, seem humorous. The funny part is that those scenes are not so far fetched, and everyday students put themselves and others at risk by not being sure about their sexual health.

The truth is, this time of the year, strangers relocate to exotic locations all over the world, such as Miami and Cancun, to party together.

"People should remember you don't know anything about them, where they came from, or if they're there just to spread



www.strongerthanlove.com

Many students may choose to engage in sexual activity at higher rates over spring break, but sexual health is an important issue all year round.





# Still Looking For The Dance



As the NCAA Tournament nears, emotions are high. Above left, North Carolina knows that they will be in the tournament, but are unsure if they will get the coveted number one seed. Above right, Frank Young hit a key three-pointer which helped West Virginia pull off an upset over top-seeded Boston College in the second round of the Big East tournament last night. West Virginia won 78-72. West Virginia is one of many teams who are on the “bubble” of making it into the NCAA tournament.

**BY ALFONS PRINCE**  
*Contributing Writer*

With some conference tournaments at an end and others just beginning, some teams are still waiting to see if their name will be called on Selection Sunday.

These teams are often called bubble teams because their chances of getting into the NCAA tournament can often be easily popped like a bubble. There are factors that help determine whether or not a bubble team can gain an at-large bid into the NCAA Tournament.

One major factor is whether or not

there will be any mid-major conference upsets. This is an important factor because if the favored team does not win, then that team should theoretically still get in based on their regular season record.

This, in return, steals an at-large bid from one of the bubble teams. An example of this would be Oakland's upset of Oral Roberts this past Tuesday. This gave Oakland the Mid-Continent Conference Championship title and an automatic berth that accompanies them to the NCAA Tournament.

This event occurring does not sit well for teams such as Maryland, Georgia Tech, Indiana, Georgetown and Notre Dame, who

are on the bubble and are desperately trying to get off.

Major conferences including the ACC, Big Ten, Big 12, Big East and the Atlantic-10 are set to begin their conference tournaments this weekend.

Maryland is a bubble team that cannot be figured out. They are the team that gave Duke two of its five losses but also the team that lost to Clemson twice in the regular season. With four of their five starters returning, Maryland is figured to be a favorite for the ACC Tournament, which will be held at the MCI Center.

However, when Maryland faced Clemson again last night, they fell to the

Tigers 84-72, which puts their chances of receiving a tournament berth on the line.

Indiana is a bubble team that is going in the opposite direction of Maryland. The Hoosiers started the season slowly beginning 5-7 including going 0-1 in the Big Ten conference. However, Indiana has come on late, winning eight of their past 13 games including a win over Michigan State and taking Wisconsin down to their last shot on their home floor.

A win Saturday over Northwestern allowed Indiana to reach 10 wins in the Big Ten, which usually is very promising. With the Big Ten being somewhat down this year, the Hoosiers safest way for an invite

would be to win their first round tournament game against Minnesota.

Students are looking forward to this weekend with some enthusiasm for what can take place. LeeRoy DeShazor Jr., a senior human development major from Wilmington, Del. said, "With the uncertainty of the weekend, it makes it fun to see who gets in and who doesn't. This drama provides a great lead into the actual tournament where anything can happen."

This weekend's games will determine which teams will receive one of the last invites to the tournament and who will be left on the outside looking in. The Selection Show will air Sunday at 6 p.m. on CBS.

## My Assignment: Embark on a fascinating global career.

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Position: **Foreign Service Officer**  
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Years of Service: **3**  
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Hometown: **Mitchellville, Maryland**

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**ALL HILLTOPICS**

Are due, paid in full, the Tuesday and Friday before publication date.

Announcements by campus organizations for meetings, seminars or nonprofit are charged \$5 for the first 20 words and \$1 for every additional five words.

Individuals advertising for the purpose of announcing a service, buying or selling are charged as local companies with a rate of \$10 for first 20 words and \$2 for every 5 words Announcements

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**Words from the EIC...**

Well, it has been two weeks since the daily, and I couldn't be happier. This staff has really pulled together to become an excellent staff. I love each of you. You all brighten my day, and it is because of all of you that the paper has succeeded so much this year.

**Shout Outs**

Ashley Kelly-You are an answer to my prayer. Thank you so much for keeping us together and keeping us on schedule. Tell Miami I said hello.

Arion and Poet-You guys are my right and left hands. Thank you for being here and all of your hardwork.

Lauren Stephens-You are super staff writer. I really appreciate all of your work. I know it has been hard for you, but don't worry help is on the way.

Kevin-I am tired of seeing you on the front!!! Just kidding:) You are the ultimate breaking news story writer. I know you are going to break my record for most stories in a year.

Christina-Get some sleep this weekend.

Maya-Look where the Hilltop is. It's a long way since freshman year, but we are still holding it down.

Marlene-You are quickly becoming my favorite photographer. Thank you for always being available for the picture.

Chris Walls-I see you coming up. The phone camera picture was off the chain. Good job!

Kristin-I wish that you could stay one more year. Thank you for staying down all of the late nights.

Professor Lamb-Thank you for all of your words of encouragement and patience.

To my teachers-Thank you for being patient with me, coming into class late and occasionally sleeping. I will definitely have it together after Spring Break.

Weldon-I love you very much. Happy One Year Anniversary.

To my staff-We are at the half point and we got to hit 'em hard when we get back. Rest up, have fun and be safe.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY FASTIDIOUS 48!!!!**



The Howard University Bookstore Presents:



Writer, Bill Egan signs "Florence Mills: Harlem Jazz Queen" signs  
March 8, 2005, 5:00 - 6:00 pm

Join us author Bill Egan shares his historical of the life of jazz great Florence Mills.



Poet Thomas Sayers Ellis reads "The Maverick Room"  
March 16, 2005, 4:30 - 6:00 pm

Join us poet and native Washingtonian, Thomas Sayers Ellis reads poetry from his debut novel, "The Maverick Room".



Professor Charles J. Ogletree signs "All Deliberate Speed"  
March 9, 2005, 2:00 pm

\*\*\*This event will be held at the School of Business, for more information call 202 - 806 - 4363.



Toby Thompkins signs "The Real Lives of Strong Black Women"

March 24, 2005, 5:30 - 7:00 pm  
In this warm and sensitive self - help guide for African American women, Thompkins explores the myth of the "strong black woman".

# March Author Events

"Join us as some of the industry's newest authors share their work with the Howard University Community."

The industries newest stars have arrived!



INDEPENDENT AUTHOR'S SERIES

MARCH 17, 2005 4:30 - 6:30 P.M.

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Go to WWW.HUBOOKSTORE.COM for more information on our events.

**WEEKLY BREAD**

"Give careful thought to your ways. You have planted much, but have harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it."

Haggai 1:5-6